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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT NO. ☐

TOPIC Military Information from Krakow

25X1 VALUATION ☐ PLACE OBTAINED ☐ 25X125X1 DATE OF CONTENT ☐DATE OBTAINED ☐ DATE PREPARED 13 October 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Motor Transport Unit

1. The 5th Motor Trans Co, called "Okregowa Komp.-Samochodowa", was stationed in Krakow (Q 51/Z 24) from October to December 1949. It was assigned to the Krakow military post headquarters. An army headquarters was allegedly also located in the city. (1)
2. A company was quartered in an old barracks on Montelupich Street in the northern sector of the city. The barracks is composed of four three-story brick buildings and some auxiliary buildings. A section of the local military court was also housed in the barracks.
3. The company had four officers and about 120 NCOs and EM. It was organized in 20 operational groups of five men each. The EM were equipped with pistols and carbines. About 20 passenger cars and 10 trucks were seen in the garage.
4. A drivers' school attended by about 50 students of various branches of service was attached to the unit. The courses began on 1 October 1949 and 11 January 1950.

Guard Battalion

5. Prior to March 1950 an infantry unit which was called a "guard battalion" was quartered in the same installation in a four-story building about 100 meters long. The unit strength was estimated at about 300 men. The soldiers wore dark yellow service color and seemed to be well trained. The EM were from 20 to 25 years old. They were armed with pistols and rifles. (2)
6. A Polish soldier said that three Soviet captains wearing Polish uniforms were serving with the guard battalion and that Soviet officers held responsible positions in all Polish army and militia units.

Army Hospital

7. Prior to March 1950 the army hospital was located on Wroclawska Street in the northern section of the city and served army units stationed in the Krakow and Breslau (P 52/C 41) areas. A militia hospital

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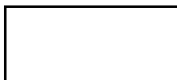
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was located in a cloister of the city. (3) The senior medical officer was Dr. Witold Swietnicki and the head surgeon was Lieutenant Colonel Szaraga, (fnu). The hospital area was about 250x500 meters. Twenty three-and four-story buildings were seen in the area. The hospital had about 2,000 beds.

- 25X1 8. another hospital of similar size was in Warsaw. attended a special course at a medical school in Stettin (O 54/2 55) which was also attended by young doctors and civilian nurses.

New Service Cap

9. A round vizor-type service cap was observed for the first time in early January 1950. It had the shape of the Soviet service cap but showed the Polish eagle. All soldiers up to the rank of master sergeant wore miniature rank insignia on their caps; the caps of officers from officer candidates up to the rank of captain were marked by a narrow silver stripe; those of field officers up to the rank of colonel by two silver stripes. When off duty many officers continued to wear the old Polish four-cornered cap. (4)

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Comments.

- (1) The designation of "Okregowa" indicates that the company was assigned to the 5th DOW (Dowodstwo Okregu Wojskowego), i.e. the 5th MD. The army headquarters was probably the Hq 5th MD as there are now no army headquarters in the Polish Army.
- (2) The guard battalion was probably a Corps of Internal Security (KBW) unit.
- (3) Probably the hospital of the 5th MD in Krakow.
- (4) The introduction of the round service cap was reported in 1949. It was originally believed that the new service cap would be worn only by KBW units.

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